

Asbestos Dump

Division Avenue

257 New Vernon Road

651 White Bridge Road Long Hill Township Morris County

Dietzman Tract/Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

Harding Township Morris County

BLOCK: Various **LOT:** Various

Community Relations Coordinator: Karen Kloo (609) 777-1971

SITE DESCRIPTION/RESOLUTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS:

The Asbestos Dump consists of four separate sites, all of which are associated with asbestos shingle production and waste disposal. The primary site, designated Operable Unit 1 (OU1), is located adjacent to the Passaic River on Division Avenue in the Millington section of Long Hill Township. It consists of a 90,000-cubic yard mound approximately 20 to 30 feet deep, which was the result of dumping of asbestos-laden wastes by several asbestos processing companies between 1922 and 1975. Chemical wastes were also allegedly disposed of at this site during this time. The soil cover of the mound eroded, leaving areas of the asbestos-filled slope exposed. The three satellite sites, located about four miles to the northeast, include two private residences on New Vernon Road and White Bridge Road in Long Hill Township (OU2) and the Dietzman Tract in the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge area (OU3). Asbestos wastes were landfilled at the New Vernon Road and White Bridge Road properties during the 1960s and 1970s, and asbestos was dumped at the Dietzman Tract for approximately 40 years. USEPA placed the Asbestos Dump on the National Priorities List of Superfund sites in 1983. In 1985, National Gypsum Company, which operated the Millington site from 1953 to 1975 and was determined to be responsible for the dumping at the satellite sites, signed an Administrative Order with USEPA in which it agreed to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS). In 1988, after National Gypsum completed the RI/FS, USEPA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) with NJDEP concurrence for OU1. The ROD required installation of a soil cover, stabilization of the side slopes, implementation of erosion and sediment control measures and installation of a security fence; however, National Gypsum declared bankruptcy before it could implement the specified actions. USEPA completed the OU1 remedial action using public funds in 2000 and NJDEP is conducting maintenance activities at the site to ensure the effectiveness of the soil cover and other environmental controls. In 1990, USEPA performed an Interim Remedial Measure (IRM) to immobilize the asbestos contamination at the New Vernon Road and White Bridge Road residential sites (OU2). The IRM included capping driveways with asphalt, covering other areas with geotextile fabric, decontaminating the residences, removing visible contamination for off-site disposal and erecting signs and fences. The following year, USEPA issued a ROD with NJDEP concurrence for permanent remediation of OU2 that required solidification/stabilization of approximately 37,000 cubic yards of asbestos-contaminated soil at the two properties into an insoluble matrix. USEPA completed the solidification/stabilization of the asbestos-contaminated soil at both of the residences in 1998. NJDEP is conducting maintenance activities at the residences to ensure the effectiveness of the OU2 remedy. In 1996, USEPA began an RI/FS at the Dietzman Tract (OU3) to determine the extent of the contamination and evaluate cleanup alternatives. The Department of the Interior (DOI) removed approximately 200 drum carcasses and 60 drums of hazardous wastes from the site in 1997. In 1998, after completing the RI/FS, USEPA signed a ROD for OU3 that required the removal of additional drums and the consolidation and containment of the asbestos waste under a biotic cap. Construction of the OU3 remedy was completed in 1999. DOI is conducting maintenance activities at the Dietzman Tract to ensure the OU3 remedy is effective. USEPA deleted the White Bridge Road portion of the Asbestos Dump Superfund site from the NPL in February 2002. The remaining portions of the site (the Millington landfill, the residential property on New Vernon Road and the Dietzman Tract) remain on the NPL.